

News Release

June 2006

Sara Barton O'Dea was appointed Administrative Law Judge in June, 2006.

Judge O'Dea joins the Administrative Court from the Georgia Court of Appeals where she served as a staff attorney to the Honorable John H. Ruffin. Prior to her tenure with the Court, Judge O'Dea was a litigation attorney with King & Spalding. At King & Spalding, Judge O'Dea practiced on the tort litigation team. She handled day-to-day management of numerous product liability cases, conducted depositions and witness interviews, prepared witnesses for trial, and argued motions.

From 1997 until 2000, Judge O'Dea was a trial attorney with the United States Department of Justice, Antitrust Division. She prepared complex antitrust cases for criminal prosecution, conducted numerous grand jury examinations, interviewed witnesses, analyzed corporate documents for antitrust violations, and negotiated plea agreements.

In 1992-1993, Judge O'Dea served as a judicial clerk for the Honorable Orinda D. Evans, United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia.

Judge O'Dea graduated, *summa cum laude*, from University of Georgia School of Law. Her law school honors and activities include: Order of the Coif; AmJur Prize Awards in Civil Procedure I & II, Legal Research & Writing I & II; Hughes Spalding Scholar (full scholarship plus additional stipend); Russell Competition, Best Brief of Appellant; *Georgia Law Review*, Executive Notes editor (1991-1992), Editorial Board (1990-1991), Publication: *Grady v. Corbin: An Unsuccessful Effort to define "Same Offense,"* 25 Ga. L. Rev. 143 (1991); Russell Moot Court Competition; Prisoner Legal Counseling Project.

Judge O'Dea received her *B. A.* degree, *magna cum laude*, in History from Davidson College in 1989. Her honors and activities included: *Phi Beta Kappa*; Ken Kelley History Scholar; Member of Rusk House; Women's Club Soccer; Intramural Sports. Judge O'Dea attended Swarthmore College in 1985-1986.

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